

minds of younger men, many of whom they trusted might at some future time emulate his distinguished example. On behalf

the committee he begged to tender his Royal Highness their thanks for having come to give a final sanction to their proceedings, and for having undertaken the duty of unveiling the statue that day.

The Prince of Wales then withdrew the covering from the statue, and brought the proceedings to a close with the following words:—

MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I consider it a very high compliment to have been asked by the Huxley Memorial Committee to unveil and receive this statue, and to do so in the name of the trustees of the British Museum, of whom I have the honour to be one. I have not forgotten that fifteen years ago I performed a similar duty in connection with the fine statue of the celebrated Charles Darwin, which is at the top of the stairs, when it was similarly handed over to the British Museum. We have heard to-day most eloquent and interesting speeches with reference to that illustrious man of science and the great thinker, the late Prof. Huxley. It would, therefore, be both superfluous of me, I may even say unbecoming in me, to sound his praises here in the presence of so many men of science, who know more about all his work than I do. I can only, on my own behalf, endorse everything that has fallen from the lips of those gentlemen who have spoken, and I beg to repeat the expression of the great pleasure it has given me for the second time to have performed the interesting ceremony of taking over the statue of another great and illustrious man of science.

The statue is a colossal seated one of white marble, the figure being represented in a doctor's gown, with the right hand clasping one arm of the chair, and the left lying across the other with the fist clenched. The pedestal is of Verona marble on a black base, and bears upon its face the name and dates of birth and death in simple bronze letters.

The statue is a thoroughly successful work of art, and stands out in bold relief to the dim mystery of the recess in which it is placed. Though the expression of the face is perhaps a little severe, the features are true to nature; and when it is considered that the artist was never privileged with a sitting in life, and that the only material available to him were the death mask and an assemblage of none too favourable photographs, it must be admitted he has done well. Great praise must be given to the modelling of the hands, in which those who knew the great philosopher intimately will recognise a faithful portrayal of well-defined characteristics.

The first and main object of the Memorial has thus been successfully achieved. As for those which remain, the award at the Royal College of Science is to be known as the "Huxley Gold Medal," for the "promotion of science in the directions in which Huxley was distinguished," and especially for research to be carried on in the laboratory which bears his name. It has been further arranged that the use of the obverse die shall be granted to the Anthropological Institute (of which Huxley was practically the founder), in connection with the establishment by that body of a Huxley Lecture-ship, and a medal, for which they will furnish the reverse. Huxley's labours as an anthropologist are among the most important of his scientific career, and it may be questioned whether his "Man's Place in Nature," published against the advice of some of his friends, who feared his "ruin" did it appear, does not now rank among the best and most enduring of his works. His influence as an anthropologist was great, and devotees to that branch of science will hail with satisfaction this decision to perpetuate his memory.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON THE RESULTS OF THE MOUNT KENYA EXPEDITION, 1899.

THE Mount Kenya Expedition left Nairobi, the then head of the Uganda Railway, on July 26, 1899, and returned to Naivasha, a station on the Uganda Road, on September 29. Considerable difficulties were experienced in the matter of commissariat, on account of the drought

and famine prevalent throughout East Africa. For this reason a longer sojourn on the mountain would have been impracticable, even if other circumstances had permitted of it.

Previous accurate knowledge of Mount Kenya rested chiefly on the work of Captain G. E. Smith, R.E., who had fixed the position of the peak, by triangulation along the Uganda Road, and of Dr. J. W. Gregory, who, in 1893, ascended the south-western slope to a height which appears to have been nearly 16,000 feet. An account of the 1899 journey is given in the May number of the *Geographical Journal*.

Mount Kenya is a vast flattened dome, seered with radiating valleys. It rises from a plateau, the level of which is 5000 to 7000 feet above the sea. Upon the crown of the dome is a precipitous pyramid, the cleft peak of which has an altitude of 17,200 feet. The entire *massif* measures about fifty miles from east to west and forty miles from north to south. Its northern slopes are crossed by the equator.

We made a plane table survey of the central portion of the mountain, and connected it by route surveys with Nairobi and Naivasha. The altitude of the central peak was determined by boiling point and theodolite, combined in four different ways, with an average result practically the same as that obtained by Captain Smith at a distance of ninety miles.

The central pyramid is the core of the denuded and dissected volcano, a fact first suggested by the late Joseph Thomson, who saw the mountain from the Laikipian plateau. Although not yet examined in section, the holocrystalline rock on the summit may probably be identified with the nepheline syenite obtained by Gregory at a lower level. The core must, therefore, have risen considerably above the present peak, and if allowance be made for still loftier crater-walls, the original height of Kenya may have equalled that of the still complete Kibo summit of Kilimanjaro.

The most significant point in the structure of the mountain is the fact that, while the major axis of the peak strikes west-north-westward and throws the glaciers down northern and southern slopes, the chief water-parting runs in a direction at right angles to this, past the eastern foot of the central peak, with the effect that the valleys are thrown off eastward and westward, and that all the existing glaciers belong to the westward drainage. From a series of rock specimens obtained at widely separated spots on the summit of the craggy ridge constituting the divide, it appears that the lie of the water-parting has been determined by a system of great dykes, which must almost have split the mountain in two.

There are fifteen existing glaciers, of which two are a mile in length, and the remainder are small. Their lower ends descend to about 14,800 feet. Everywhere and at all hours at the time of our visit the surfaces were dry and crisp. Comparatively little water flowed from them, and the stream banks below gave small indication of floods. The ice was intensely hard, and fed by fine hail rather than snow. These facts may be explained by the meteorological conditions. Although the air-temperatures were not very low at night, there was then great radiation into the cloudless sky. In the afternoon, on the other hand, a cloud cap regularly warded off the sunshine. The air was usually dry, the relative humidity falling on more than one occasion to 54 per cent.

Evidence of past glaciation was frequent down to 12,000 feet both in the eastern and western valleys, and there were occasional traces down to about 9000 feet. The whole of the central part of the mountain, with the exception of the peak and the dividing ridge, must have been buried under a sheet of glacier, more than comparable to that of Kilimanjaro, at a time later than the erosion of the existing valleys.

Snow was absent from the summit, and several species of brilliantly coloured lichen were collected there. Everlasting flowers grew in the rock chinks up to 16,500 feet. In the upper Alpine zone were two distinct species of giant groundsel and two of giant lobelia, seeds of which have been brought home. The greater part of our dried plants was lost, but the mosses and lichens were saved. A series of photographs of the Alpine vegetation in various stages of growth was taken by my colleague, Mr. C. B. Hausburg.

Mr. Oldfield Thomas has described, before the Zoological Society, the skulls and skins of the mammals collected by us. The most interesting is a new species of Rock Dassy (*Proavia Mackinderi*), whose nearest relative has recently been sent home from the Eldoma Ravine by Mr. F. J. Jackson (*P. Jacksoni*). Apart from these two species, no Rock Dassies have been found in any part of East Africa, nor are they known further south. *P. Mackinderi* appears to be isolated above the forest-zone (7000-10,000 feet) on Mount Kenya. A new Forest Dassy was obtained from a lower level.

This mountain block and the Rift Valley may be the necessary complements of one another.

Only a small collection of insects was obtained, chiefly in Kikuyu, but Prof. Poulton informs me that it includes new species of Coleoptera, Forficulidae and Hymenoptera.

H. J. MACKINDER.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.

AMONG the losses which science is from time to time called upon to deplore, not the least serious arise from the death of men of prominent public position who have taken an active personal interest in the advance of natural knowledge, and have done their best to promote it. The late Duke of Argyll was an eminent example of this type of man. Heir of a long line of illustrious ancestors, who for many generations have played a leading part in the stormy annals of their native country, called early in life to the legislature where he mingled conspicuously in the political conflicts of his time, full of



Kenya Peak, from the south-west.

The collection of birds has been described by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe. It includes a new eagle owl, as large as the European species, which feeds on the rats of the Alpine zone of Kenya, and there are three other new species. Generally the birds are similar to those of Mount Elgon, and in a lesser degree to those of Kilimanjaro. This is strikingly indicated by the fact that if Mr. Jackson had not explored Mount Elgon in 1890, nearly every bird we obtained would have been new.

The few human inhabitants of Kenya are Wandorobo, elephant hunters, who live in the forest up to its higher limit. On one occasion a party of them was seen at over 12,000 feet.

To west of Mount Kenya is the so-called Aberdare Range, traversed for the first time by the members of our expedition. It consists of two much denuded volcanic stumps, Nandarua and Sattima, rising to 12,900 and 13,200 feet respectively, and of a raised block, 9000 feet high, defined by parallel fault scarps, which strike in the same direction as the scarps of the Great Rift Valley.

wide and generous sympathies which prompted him to speak or to write on most of the great questions that agitated the public mind during his long and brilliant career, the Duke yet found time to read much and widely in science, and to keep himself acquainted with the progress of scientific discussion and achievement. He was happily gifted with a marvellous versatility, so that he could turn rapidly from one sphere of thought and activity to another far removed. Hence, amid the cares of State and of the administration of a great domain, as well as in the sorrow of domestic bereavement, he was often to be found immersed in the perusal of some recent treatise, or carrying on a research of his own in those parts of the scientific field which more specially interested him. Whether as an acute critic of the labours of others, or as an observer of nature himself, his devotion to these pursuits remained a characteristic feature of his life from the beginning to the end. It is difficult at present to define with precision the extent and value of the services of such a man in the progress of the science of his time. His